

## REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In response to the requirement for information in paragraph 2 on page 2 of the Official Action, the attorney of record handling the prosecution asked the assignee and inventors for any additional references qualifying as material prior art and also searched for additional material prior art and found two references regarding the SCSI "Report LUNs" command mentioned on page 22 line 22 of the present specification. Copies of these two references are enclosed and cited on the enclosed Form 1449. See Sanada et al. U.S. 6,484,245 FIG. 6 and FIG. 11 for a map (table, etc.) that maintains information that enables or does not enable access to a logical storage device. See also Oeda et al. U.S. 5,634,111 for a computer system "so constructed that peculiar device ID's are respectively allocated to the plurality of computers and peripheral devices, ...." (Col. 2, lines 11-14.) In addition, a discussion of the references with respect to the amended claims is given below.

In paragraph 3 on page 4 of the Official Action, claims 1, 20 and 33 were provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting. This rejection has been obviated by the cancellation of claims 1, 20 and 33.

In paragraph 4 on page 5, claims 1-47 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite with respect to the claim language "conforming with". In reply, the claim language "conforming with" has been replaced in the amended claims with more definite language regarding assignment of ports to hosts, and there was no objection in the official action to this more definite language. For example, in claims 12 and 14 as amended, the claim language with respect to "conforming with" was replaced with the following language

from claim 11: “wherein one or more of the ports that provide access to the data storage are assigned to each host, a set of storage volumes are made accessible from each of the ports that provide access to the data storage, and the apparatus is programmed so that said each host can access storage at said each of the ports that provide access to the data storage only if said each of the ports that provide access to the data storage has been assigned to said each host; ...” Please recall that support for this language in claim 11 (and also claims 26 and 43) was given on page 5 of applicants’ information disclosure statement filed Sept. 5, 2003 as follows: FIGS. 23 and 24, virtual port host table 281, virtual port mapping table 282, page 57 lines 12-16, page 58 lines 12-14, page 59, lines 15-22, page 122 lines 9-12. In a similar fashion, in claims 27 and 29 as amended, the claim language with respect to “conforming with” was replaced with the language from claim 26, and in claims 44 and 46 as amended, the claim language with respect to “conforming with” was replaced with the language from claim 43.

In paragraph 6 of the Official Action, claims 1-47 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Sanada et al. (U.S. Patent 6,484,245). In reply, claims 1-11, 13, 15-26, 28, 30-43, 45, and 47 have been cancelled, and claims 12, 14, 27, 29, 44, and 46 have been re-written in independent form including limitations of their base claims and any intervening claim with the exception that the limitations with respect to “conforming with” have been replaced with limitations from other dependent claims 11, 26, and 43 as noted above.

With respect to claims 12, 27, and 44, it is respectfully submitted that Sanada et al. neither anticipates nor renders obvious the applicants’ method or apparatus that responds to a request directed to said each of the ports from said each host for a report of the logical unit

numbers of storage that are accessible to said each host from said each of the ports that provide access to the data storage by providing a report of the logical unit numbers of storage that are accessible to said each host from said each of the ports that provide access to the data storage. Sanada et al. discloses logical unit number (LUN)-based logical disk extent in Col. 3 lines 10-11 and also discloses the use of a panel or the like for setting the information as managed by the storage control device or the panel or the like can be replaced with the use of a utility program or programs of host computers to attain the intended setup operation (Col. 3, lines 34-49; see also Col. 9 lines 56-65). However, it is not seen where Sanada et al. shows a LUN reporting service as claimed in applicants' claims 12, 27 and 44.

The enclosed Form 1449 cites two references related to LUN reporting. The SCSI Report LUNs command is the subject of pages 67-68 of "SCSI-3 Primary Commands (SPC)," ANSI X3.301-1997, and the SCSI Report LUNs command is mentioned in paragraph 2.2 subparagraph c) on page 2 of the "SCSI Enclosure Profile" T10/97-264r1 November 6, 1997. In addition, please recall that the following references were cited in the priority application with respect to reporting of storage: Chin U.S. Pat. 5,959,968 (col. 15 lines 55-58 cited on page 5 of the Office Action dated 03/22/2000 in grand-parent Ser. 09/106,299), Bender U.S. Pat. 6,111,894 (col. 12 line 63 cited on page 4 of the Office Action dated 11/17/2000 in grand-parent Ser. 09/106,299); and Jesionowski U.S. 6,044,442 (col. 3 lines 26-42 cited on page 4 of the Office Action dated 11/20/2001 in grand-parent Ser. 09/106,299).

With respect to claims 14, 29, and 46, it is respectfully submitted that Sanada et al. neither anticipates nor renders obvious the applicants' method or apparatus that uses a respective

private/shared flag for each port that provides access to the data storage for indicating whether or not said each port that provides access to the data storage provides access to data storage that is private to a respective one of the hosts. Please recall that the following references were cited in the predecessor applications with respect to private storage: Chin U.S. Pat. 5,959,968 (col. 3 line 30 cited on page 6 of the Office Action dated 03/22/2000 in grand-parent Ser. 09/106,299); Ofek U.S. Pat. 5,901,327 (col. 35 line 60 - col. 36 line 10 cited on page 5 of the Office Action dated 11/27/2000 in grand-parent Ser. 09/106,299; Jesionowski U.S. 6,044,442 (col. 3 lines 26-42 cited on page 5 of the Office Action dated 11/20/2001 in grand-parent Ser. 09/106,299); Beardsley U.S. 6,006,342 (col. 7 lines 15-40 and col. 9 lines 1-22 cited on page 7 of the Office Action dated 10/08/04 in parent Ser. 10/139,490).

New dependent claims 48, 49, 50, and 52 further define that the request directed to said each of the ports from said each host for a report of the logical unit numbers of storage that are accessible to said each host from said each of the ports that provide access to the data storage is a SCSI "Report LUNs" command. New claims 51 and 52 further define that this request is sent from said each host at boot time. Support for these new claims is found in applicants' specification on page 21, line 13 to page 22, line 5.

In view of the above, reconsideration is respectfully requested, and early allowance is earnestly solicited.

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Reply to Official Action of Sept. 26, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard C. Auchterlonie". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized initial "R".

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